Attorney Docket No: 62004-1970

As the below named inventor(s), I/we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.  We believe we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and fo which a patent is sought on the invention entitled Optical waveguides with embedded air-gap cladding layer
which a patcht is sought on the invention chitical optical waveguides with embedded an gap chitaches and
and methods of fabrication thereof, the specification of which:
is attached hereto.  was filed on February 11, 2002 as Application Serial No  was filed on under U.S. Express Mail No  is set forth in PCT International Application No;  filed on and as amended Under PCT Article 19 on (if any).

I/we hereby state that I/we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I/we acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I/we hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any United States provisional patent application, foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any United States provisional patent application, foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the above-identified application on which priority is claimed: U.S. provisional application entitled, "Guided-wave Optical Interconnection Using Volume Grating Coupler and Air Gap Technologies Embedded Within A Microelectronic Package," having ser. no. 60/268,142, filed February 11, 2001.

I/we hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States patent application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I/we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: **NOT APPLICABLE.** 

I/we hereby appoint the following attorneys/agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: George M. Thomas, Reg. No. 22,260; James W. Kayden, Reg. No. 31,532; Scott A. Horstemeyer, Reg. No. 34,183; Stephen R. Risley, Reg. No. 35,659; Jeffrey R. Kuester, Reg. No. 34,367; Daniel R. McClure, Reg. No. 38,962; Daniel J. Santos, Reg. No. 40,158; Dan R. Gresham, Reg. No 41,805; J. Scott Culpepper, Reg. No. 41,692; Michael J. Tempel, Reg. No. 41,344; David R. Risley, Reg. No. 39,345; M. Paul Qualey, Reg. No 43,024; Robert P. Biddle, Reg. No. 35,826; Jennifer M. Gruber, Reg. No. 42,601; Peter A. Nieves, Reg. No. 48,173; William F. Heinze, Reg. No. 36,161; Raymond W. Armentrout, Reg. No. 45,866; Robert A. Blaha, Reg. No. 43,502; Cynthia J. Lee, Reg. No. 46,033; N. Andrew Crain, Reg. No. 45,442; Monica H. Winghart, Reg. No. 46,790; Robert B. Dulaney III, Reg. No. 47,539; Christopher B. Linder, Ph.D., Reg. No. 47,751; Adam E. Crall, Reg. No. 46,646; Edwina T. Washington; Reg. No. 43,187; Scott M. Lohnes, Reg. No. 45,451; Sami O. Malas, Reg. No. 44,893; David Rodack, Reg. 47,034; Troy VanAacken, Reg. No. P50,847; Charles W. Griggers, Reg. No. 47,283; Robert E. Stachler II, Reg. No. 36,934; David P. Kelley, Reg. No. 17,420; Eric M. Ringer, Reg. No. 47,028; and Charles E. Thorpe, Jr., Reg. No. 48,782.

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Christopher B. Linder THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P. 100 Galleria Parkway, N.W., Suite 1750 Atlanta, Georgia 30339-5948 I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statement and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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